

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An audio storage apparatus comprising:
  - a) an audio storage unit for storing audio data including audio information, the audio information including a response message<sub>i</sub>[[,]]
  - b) a response message control table for assigning each caller information with each of a plurality of the response messages for each of a plurality of mailboxes<sub>i</sub>[[,]]
  - c) an audio data controller for reading out the audio data stored in said audio storage unit<sub>i</sub>[[,]]
  - d) a central controller for controlling said audio storage apparatus<sub>i</sub>[[,]]
  - e) a network interface for connecting said audio storage apparatus to a network including a telephone line or an extension line<sub>i</sub>[[,]] ~~and~~
  - f) a caller information detector for detecting caller information from an input signal incoming from the network<sub>i</sub>[[,]] and
  - g) a group control table registering plural telephone numbers in one group, wherein the central controller,
    - i) when it is judged that a mailbox number, which is sent from the network, has been assigned, refers to the response message control table for judging whether a response message corresponding to the caller information detected by the caller information detector is assigned or not,

ii) when it is judged that a response message corresponding to the caller information detected by the caller information detector is assigned, reproduces the response message messages, and

iii) when it is judged that a response message corresponding to the caller information detected by the caller information detector is not assigned, reproduces a response message not assigned to the caller information;

wherein the central controller,

i) when calling in the network interface from the network, reproduces the main guidance stored in the audio storage through the audio data controller, and

ii) when judged there is a request for hearing of an audio message on the basis of the input signal, refers to the group control table, and when the caller information belongs to a specific group, reproduces the audio information depending on said group through the audio data controller;

wherein said audio storage further stores main guidance, and

said central controller when calling in the network interface from the network, reproduces the main guidance through the audio data controller, and

wherein said response message control table includes a response message assigned to a plural pieces of caller information.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The audio storage apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:~~

An audio storage apparatus comprising:

a) an audio storage unit for storing audio data including audio information,

the audio information including a response message;

b) a response message control table for assigning each caller information

with each of a plurality of the response messages for each of a plurality of mailboxes;

c) an audio data controller for reading out the audio data stored in said audio storage

unit;

d) a central controller for controlling said audio storage apparatus;

e) a network interface for connecting said audio storage apparatus to a

network including a telephone line or an extension line;

f) a caller information detector for detecting caller information from an input signal

incoming from the network; and

g) a group control table registering plural telephone numbers in one group,

wherein the central controller,

i) when it is judged that a mailbox number, which is sent from the  
network, has been assigned, refers to the response message control table for  
judging whether a response message corresponding to the caller information  
detected by the caller information detector is assigned or not,

ii) when it is judged that a response message corresponding to the  
caller information detected by the caller information detector is assigned,  
reproduces the response message, and

iii) when it is judged that a response message corresponding to the caller information detected by the caller information detector is not assigned, reproduces a response message not assigned to the caller information,

~~g) — a group control table registering plural telephone numbers in one group,~~  
wherein said central controller

i) when calling in the network interface from the network, reproduces the main guidance stored in the audio storage through the audio data controller, and

ii) when judged there is a request for hearing of an audio message on the basis of the input signal, refers to the group control table, and when the caller information belongs to a specific group, reproduces the audio information depending on said group through the audio data controller,  
wherein said audio storage further stores main guidance, and  
said central controller,

when calling in the network interface from the network, reproduces the main guidance through the audio data controller, and

wherein said mailbox response message controller stores the response message assigned to a group of plural pieces of caller information.

Claims 4-15 (Canceled)